ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಹೇಳಿಕೆ

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ. ರಾಜಶೇಖರ ಮೂರ್ತಿ.—ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೇ, ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನನ್ನ ಹೇಳಿಕೆ ಸಿದ್ಧವಾಗಿದೆ. ಅದನ್ನು ಓದಬೇಕೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರೆ ಓದುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಇಲ್ಲವೇ ಓದಿದೆನೆಂದು ಭಾವನೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಹೆಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಬಹುದೆಂದರೆ ಅದಕ್ಕೂ ಸಿದ್ಧನಾಗಿದ್ದೇನೆ.

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು.—ಸದನದ ಮುಂದೆ ಅದನ್ನು ಇಡಬಹುದು.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ. ರಾಜಶೇಖರ ಮೂರ್ತಿ.—ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಿದ್ಧವಾಗಿರುವ ಹೇಳಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಸಭೆಯ ಮುಂದಿಡುತ್ತೇನೆ.

Statement made by the Hon'ble Finance Minister in the Legislature on 22nd December 1989 on the Financial Position of Karnataka.

The finacial position of Karnataka has been the subejct matter of controversy for some time now. Divergent views have been expressed ranging from one end of the spectrum to the other depending on the predilections of individuals and opinion groups. On the one hand, it has been claimed that there was nothing wrong with the State's finances and indeed, that the finances were sound. On the other hand, others have alleged that the State was teetering on the brink of bankruptcy. It has even been suggested that the State Government should present a White Paper on the State's financial position. It is against this background, that I am making this statement before this august House today in order to convey to the Hon'ble Members and through them to the people of the State an objective assessment of the State's financial position.

2 Our Government has been elected to office at a time when the Seventh Plan is about to end and the next Plan is about to begin. In order to fulfil the aspirations of the people and to improve their standard of living, large investments have to be made by Government. It is obvious that in order to do this, Government must have adequate resources at is disposal. Over the years, it has been the experience of all the State Governments that their sources of revenue have become increasingly inadequate to meet the ever expanding responsibilities cast on them. Besides, unlike the Central Government, the State Governments cannot resort to deficit financing. No wonder, many State Government, and Karnataka is no exception, are in a resources straitjacket.

3 Hon'ble Members wou'd be familiar with the broad division of Governmental expenditure between Plan and Non-Plan. Generally speaking, the routing maintenance expenditure of Government which does not lead to major investment outlays or new programmes and schemes, but takes care of the normal running of the Government machinery constitutes the Non-Plan expenditure of Government. Per contra, Plan expenditure implies fresh develoment expenditure including expenditure on new projects, programmes and schemes.

4 The balance of current tax and non-tax revenues, including our share of Central taxes, over non-plan expenditure, is a good index of the financial position of the State. If this figure is a good plus, it implies that the State is in a position to take care of the normal expenditure leaving a surplusage for Plan expenditure. If on the other hand, this is a minus figure, it is a reflection of the serious imbalance afflicting the economy, the revenues of the State being insufficient even to meet the normal regulatory and maintanance functions of the State.

5 The following statement illustrates the position in the State from 1983-84 to 1989-90, at 1983-84 levels of taxation.

Rs. in Crores

Year	Amount
1983-84	321.90
1984-85	216.61
1985-86	267.39
1986-87	225.48
1987-88	81.26
1988-89 (RE)	77.65
1989-90 (BE)	—43.81

It can be seen from the above, that there has been a considerable erosion in resources during the period 1988-84 to 1989-90 particularly over the last three years, leaving that much less for plan expenditure.

6 The erosion in the State's own resoarces is to a large extent the result of a sharp inerease in the non-plan expenditure during the period 1983-84 to 1989-90. The following table is illustrative.

Non-Plan expenditure

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Amount
1983-84	948.43
1984-85	1210.64
1985-86	1363.77
1986-87	1569.31
1987-88	1871.50
1988-89 (RE)	2205.44
1989-90 (BE)	2644.44

If the non-plan expenditure increased from Rs. 948.43 crores to Rs. 2644.44 crores during the above period, an increase of Rs. 1696.01 crores. the tax and non-tax revenues, including a large element of additional resource mobilisation, increased from Rs. 1264.40 crores to Rs. 2879.05 crores during the same period, an increase of Rs. 1614.65 crores. Thus, it can be seen that the growth in non-plan expenditure of the State has outstripped the tax and non-tax revenues. We have had to keep running to stay where we are.

7 This increase in non-plan expenditure is in turn to a great extent the result of a phenomenal rise in the expenditure on emoluments of Government employees.

The following Table is self-explanatory:

Expenditure on Emoluments

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Amount
1983-84	424.57
1984-85	485.91
1985-86	564.91
1986-87	661.79
1987-88	855.71
1988-89	1043.51
1989-90	1251.00

It is obvious that the expenditure on emoluments of Government employees much of which is towards the non-plan activities of the State has gone up from Rs. 424.57 crores to 1251.00 crores during the Period in question an almost three fold increase during a six year period. This is to a substantial extent the result of a large increase in the number of employees in the service of the State. The number of Government employees which stood at 3.61 lakhs during 1983-84 currently stands at 4.45 lakhs during 1989-90, that is, a 32 per cent increase.

8 No wonder, then, that there has been litle surplus left for investment. If the financial position of the State was adversely affected by the inability of tax and non-tax revenues to cope with the increase in non-plan expenditure, the Position was further compounded by the successive droughts that the State experienced during this period. It is pertinent to mention here that the State has had to spend as much as Rs 184.46 crores for famine relief during the first four years of the Seventh Plan period. As against this amount spent by the State Government, assistance from Central Government has been Rs. 126.20 crores by way of advance plan assistance. Out

of the assistance so received, Rs. 60·60 crores still remain to be adjusted.

9 Since the State's own resouaces, including fresh measures of revenue generation, are not sufficient to ensure a large Plan, the State has had to resort to a large quantum of borrowings, both as Plan assistance and in other ways, such as market borrowings, negotiated loans for public utilities, loans for small savings collections etc. The receipt of loans from the Government of India in recent years has gone almost entirely towards servicing the State's debt arising out of Central loans. The following figures indicate the position:

Loans from Government of India

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Amount Received	Amount Recpaid (incl. interest)
1983–84	225.68	176.93
1984–85	371.76	254.98
1985–86	725.26	301.66
1986–87	362.49	287.47
1987–88	319.42	320.48
1988–89 (RE)	348.00	347.35
1989–90 (BE)	453.77	386.15

10 The difficult position on the financial front is clearly reflected in the increasing difficulty in funding the plan adequately during the Seventh Five Year Plan period, leading to the pruning of the size of the plan during the third and fourth years. The position during the current year, the last year of the Seventh Five Year Plan, is none-too-sanguine. The following table indicates the Plan outlays and the actual expenditure incurred during the first four years of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

State's Annual Plun

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Approved outlay	Actual expenditure
1985–86	651.00	693.32
1986-87	765.00	796.54
1987–88	917 00	779.71
	765.45*	
1988.89	900.00	818.36**
	800.00*	

* Revised approved outlay

** Latest estimates.

11 The Plan for 1989-90 envisages a total outlay of Rs. 1040.00 crores. The year started off with an opening balance of (—) Rs. 10.46 crores. That the resources available did not match the requirements of the Plan is evidenced by the budgetary gap of Rs. 176.30 crores for the year. In view of the continuing constraints on resources and the consequent restrictions imposed on payments, the State Government had accumulated pending bills to the extent of Rs. 128.97 crores as on 31st March 1989 which have had to be discharged during the current year. For the same reason, the deposits of Public Undertakings and other bodies with Government had also swelled upto an unusual figure of Rs. 159.96 crores.

12 The exigencies of circumstances necessitated the payment o the pending bills during the course of the current year from May, 1989 onwards. The impounded deposits also had to be permitted to be withdrawn to the extent of Rs. 100 crores in the interest of efficient running of public undertakings and other organisations. While therr have been other shortfalls in resources, improvnd collections of taxes is expected to fetch over Rs. 100 crores. Mobilisation of small savings has also been higher than expected, yielding a further Rs. 150 crores. he net gap in resourcos for the Plan, therefore, will be of the order of Rs. 300 crores.

13 Besides, there are also other unbudgtted liabilities which the Government has to meet, such as subsidies to VISL and the Karnataka Electricity Board, the Khadi and Village Industries Board, investment subsidy and development loan to industries, refund of sales tax on diesel consumed for captive generation of electricity, additional subsidy on foodgrains, additional subsidy for the saree-dhotie scheme etc., amounting to over Rs. 300 crores. These are all payments which do not brook delay and have to be made in the none-too-distant future. This is the legacy of the deficits that the previous Janata Dal Government left to its successor. These large deficits, uncovered as they were, got further compounded, as the budget for 1989-90 contained virtually no measure for additional resource mobilisation.

14 Hon'ble Members will see that the position is far from comfortable and is indeed daunting. The compulsions of the situation dictate that every effort will have to be made to effect economies in administrative expenditure and to raise further resources I have already asked my officers to look into these matters and recommend appropriate measures. It is, perhaps, a little premature to say at this juncture what these measures would be. I will certainly take the Members into confidence at the time of the presentation of the Budget. I request your active assistance and co-operation in this endeavour.

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು.— ಹೇಳಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಸಭೆಯ ಮುಂದೆ ಇಡಲಾಯಿತು. ಈಗ ಭಕ್ತವತ್ಸಲಂ ಅವರು ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಗೈರು ಹಾಜರಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ವಿಕಾಂತಯ್ಯ ಅವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಭಾಷಣ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ಮಾಡಲಿ.

ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಭಾಷಣಕ್ಕೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕ ವಂದನಾ ನಿರ್ಣಯದ ಮೇಲೆ ಚರ್ಚೆ

ಶ್ರೀ ಹೆಚ್. ವಿಕಾಂತಯ್ಯ (ಚಿತ್ರದುರ್ಗ).— ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಭಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೇ, ಮಾನ್ಯ ಖಿರ್ಗಿಯವರು ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಭಾಷಣಕ್ಕೆ ವಂದನೆಯನ್ನು ಅರ್ಪಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾಪವನ್ನು ಏನು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ, ಆ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವವನ್ನು ವಿರೋಧಿಸಿ ಕೆಲವು ಮಾತುಗಳನ್ನು ಹೇಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ನಾನು ಇಷ್ಟಪಡುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಮಾನ್ಯ ಆಡಳಿತ ಪಕ್ಷದ ಕೆಲವು ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಹಾಗೂ ಈ ಕಡೆ ಕೂತ ಕೆಲವು ಸದಸ್ಯರು ೯ನೇ ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಕೆಲವು ಮಾತುಗಳನ್ನಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತಮ್ಮದೇ ಆದ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನಾನುವಾ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಇಷ್ಟಪಡುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ ಕೆಲವು ವಿಚಾರಗಳನ್ನು ನಾನು ಹೇಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಇಷ್ಟಪಡುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಈ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ನಾವೆಲ್ಲರೂ ಒಪ್ಪಿರುವ ಈ ಸಂಸದೀಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಜನತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಆಡಳಿತ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಾಗಲೀ, ಆ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಹೊಸ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಅಧಿಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಬರುವುದು ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಅಗತ್ಯ. ಕೆಲವು ಸಂದರ್ಭಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯವೂ ಆಗಬಹುದು. ಆದರೆ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಆಡಳಿತ ಪಕ್ಷದ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ತಮ್ಮದೇ ಆದ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹಿಂದೆ ಇದ್ದ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿಲ್ಲ, ಪಚನ ಪಾಲನೆ ಮಾಡಿಲ್ಲ, ಅದಕ್ಕೋಸ್ಕರ ಜನರು ನಮ್ಮ ಪಕ್ಷವನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕಾರ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಜನಹಿತ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ನಾವು ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಮಾಡಿಲ್ಲಿಲ್ಲ ಆದರಿಂದ ಜನ ನಮ್ಮನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕಾರ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅನೇಕ ಸಗರಣಗಳ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಹೋಗಿದೆ ಎನ್ನುವ ಮಾತನ್ನು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅದು ಅವರ ಹೇಳಿಕೆಯ ಮಾತಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆ ವಿಚಾರಕ್ಕೆ ನಾನು ಬರುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಯಾವುದೇ ಆಡಳಿತ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದುರದೃಷ್ಟವಶಾತ್ ಅನೇಕ ತಪ್ಪುಗಳಾಗುತ್ತವೆ ಎನ್ನುವ ಮಾತನ್ನು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳೇ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆಷ್ಟೆ ಅಲ್ಲ, ಯಾವುದೇ ಒಂದು ಇನ್‌ಡೆಕ್ಟೀವ್ ಆಟಿಟ್ಯೂಡ್ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ ನಾನು ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಮಾಡುತ್ತೇನೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆ ವಿಚಾರಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನಾನು ಆನಂತರ ಮಾತನಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಇಷ್ಟಪಡುತ್ತೇನೆ ಅದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಮೊದಲು ಈಗ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶ ಏನು ಬಂದಿದೆ ಆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೇಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಇಷ್ಟಪಡುತ್ತೇನೆ.

(ಶ್ರೀ ಹಿಂಡಸಗೇರಿಯವರು ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಪೀಠವನ್ನು ಅಲಂಕರಿಸಿದರು)

ಈ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶವನ್ನು ನೋಡಿದಾಗ ಜನ ಮತ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದು ನಕರಾತ್ಮಕವಾದ ಮತಗಳು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ನಾವು ಮರೆಯಬಾರದು. ಇವತ್ತಿನ ದಿವಸ ಆಡಳಿತ ಪಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿರುವ ಮತಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು ನೋಡಿದಾಗ ಕೇವಲ ೩೮ ರಷ್ಟು ಮತಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾತ್ರ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ಗಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ೧೯೮೫ನೇ ಇಸವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇಕಡ ೪೫.೧೦ ರಷ್ಟು ಮತಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದರೆ ೧೯೮೯ರ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ೪೧.೪೨ ಮತಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾತ್ರ ಶೇಕಡವಾರು ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದೇರೀತಿ ಜನತಾಪಕ್ಷ ಏನಿತ್ತು, ಅದು ೧೯೮೫ನೇ ಇಸವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇಕಡ ೪೩.೮೪ ಮತಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದರೆ, ಆ ಪಕ್ಷ ಇಬ್ಬಾಗವಾಗಿ ಜನತಾ ಮತ್ತು ಜನತಾದಳ ಎಂದು ಎರಡು ಪಕ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿ ಶೇಕಡ ೩೬.೭೫ ರಷ್ಟು ಶೇಕಡವಾರು ಮತಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಈ ಮಾತನ್ನು ವಿತಕ್ಕೋಸ್ಕರ ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇನೆಂದರೆ, ತಮಗೇ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಜನತೆ ಮತ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆಂದು ಏನು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದೀರಿ ಅದಕ್ಕೋಸ್ಕರ ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇನೆ. ಅದರ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಬಹಳ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಮತಗಳು ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯಾಗಿಹೋಗಿದ್ದರಿಂದ ತಾವು ಅಧಿಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಬರಲಿಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ. ತಾವು ಪ್ರಚಂಡ ಬಹುಮತದಿಂದ ಆರಿಸಿ ಬಂದಿದ್ದೇವೆಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತೀರಿ, ಆದರೆ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಮತಗಳು ಒಡೆದದ್ದರಿಂದ ಆ ರೀತಿಯಾಯಿತೇ ಹೊರತು ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ಕಾರಣ ಅಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಹೇಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಇಷ್ಟಪಡುತ್ತೇನೆ ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ವಿಚಾರವೆಂದರೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ನಡೆಯಿತೇ ಇಲ್ಲವೆ ಎನ್ನುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನಾನು ವಿಶೇಷವಾಗಿ ಯಾರ ಮೇಲಿನ ಮಮತೆಯಿಂದ ಅಥವ ದ್ವೇಷಪೂರಿತವಾದ ಭಾವನೆಯಿಂದ ಈ ಮಾತನ್ನು ಹೇಳುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ನಾವು ಅನೇಕ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಲೋಕಸಭೆ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆಯ ೯ನೇ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಇಂತಹ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳು ನಡೆದಾಗ ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ಪಕ್ಷ ಮೂರು ಸಾರಿ ಹೊಸ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ ಆಗಿದೆ. ೧೯೬೭ ರಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳಾದ ವೀರೇಂದ್ರ ಪಾಟೀಲರ ಸರ್ಕಾರವಿತ್ತು. ನಂತರ ಅವರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಹೋಯಿತು. ಆಗ ಬದಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಬಂತು. ೧೯೭೨ ರಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ (ಐ) ಸರ್ಕಾರ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಂತು ೧೯೮೩ನೇ ಇಸವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ೧೯೮೫ರಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳು ಬಂದವು. ೧೯೮೯ ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇವತ್ತಿನ ದಿವಸ ಪುನಃ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಸರ್ಕಾರ